

# In fact

For The Millions Who Want a Free Press

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Exposé of Coudert Committee's  
witch hunt in NY school system:  
starts on p 3.

## Duranty on Russia

FORTNIGHT ago, when IN FACT's editor renewed acquaintance with Walter Duranty, with whom he reported Russia, 1922-23, Duranty predicted Hitler's war on Soviets.

"Hitler," he said, "will not attempt to march on Moscow, but will content himself with territory including Kief and Odessa, most of the rich Ukraine."

"When he is halted anywhere, or when he realizes his invasion of Britain is impossible, Hitler will be pushed into the Ukrainian adventure. Occupying that land, he will have a bargaining advantage in a deal with Britain; he hopes to keep this gain and save his face, too."

Duranty believes Hitler hopes to entrench himself in Odessa, the key to grain, oil, Turkey and the Near East.

Editor & Publisher (June 21) said Duranty, frequently criticized as being pro-Soviet, replied: "My job was not to interpret but to be a straight reporter. I have never felt that it was my problem to sit in moral judgment. What I want to know is whether a political line or regime will work or not. The one in Russia appears to be working." Duranty has also been accused of writing anti-Soviet, but most newspaper men consider him the most objective journalist to write about Russia.

## Duranty Suppressed

DURANTY quit the NY Times recently, now represents North American Newspaper Alliance in which the Times is main paper. Recently several IN FACT readers sent in clippings from Baltimore Sun, other papers, proving that Duranty's Russian news dispatches either did not appear in the Times or were censored. Editor & Publisher also investigated report of suppression. It received a letter from Times's managing editor Edwin L James saying, "Of a series of 8 articles by Mr Duranty, we printed, I believe, five or six, and did not print the other 2 because they did not seem to contain much news. . . . The charge so often made about 'suppression' in newspaper offices can only be made in complete ignorance of how a newspaper is put together. We print about 150,000 words of news a night and we receive about 400,000 words. . . . To say that we 'suppress' 250,000 words . . . would be absurd. . . . It would be just as sensible as saying that we 'suppressed' Mr Duranty's articles."

The editor of IN FACT asked Duranty if the Times was suppressing some of his

## Hess, Nazi Buchmanite, Plots in Britain to Switch War Against Russia; German Peace Terms Revealed

SIMULTANEOUSLY with Nazi declaration of war on Russia, IN FACT has received information from London and from diplomatic officials in Washington telling the secret of Hess's flight, revealing the plot of British appeasers and Buchmanites to switch the war into an Anglo-German war against Russia, and the peace terms which Hitler offers to achieve this end.

Hess, third most important Nazi, it is confirmed, brought a proposal of war and peace: war against Russia which Britain was asked to join, and peace which would repay Britain for aiding Hitler.

The peace terms, IN FACT learns from a Washington source which obtained them from the Jugoslav minister, are as follows:

1) Restoration of France with the exception of Alsace and Lorraine.

2) British Empire to be left intact.

3) Restoration to Germany of German East and German West Africa and certain other former colonies.

4) Britain to make peace with Germany and join in the offensive against Russia.

5) Hitler to be given a vast territory from Prussia to the Black Sea, including Kief, and Ukraine granary, and Odessa.

(At the same time IN FACT obtained these peace terms, June 22, the United Press Madrid correspondent obtained a similar set of terms which included "Division of Europe into German and British spheres of influence" and "German expansion eastward at Russia's expense.")

IN FACT learns from London that the attempt to change the character of the entire world war is still being made, all the principals in the drama being Buchmanites.

Buchmanism or Moral Re-Armament is a sort of religion founded by a Pennsylvanian named Frank Nathan Daniel Buchman; it has made great headway in British Tory circles, among Washington pro-fascist officials, among employers who want "loyal" labor without paying increased wages, and strangely enough among certain American labor leaders—who will be named here.

Hess was revealed as a Buchmanite in a broadcast from London by Collier's representative William Hillman. But Hillman missed the real story. He reported: "Hess went to Britain as a penitent seeking peace, as a Buchmanite moved to confess his sins and mistakes and those of his Nazi associates and try to plead with the British to help him put an end to the slaughter of men. Hess aimed at peace, as a true Buchmanite who is supposed to stand up and confess his sins and he has not spared himself or his fellow Nazis."

## Hess Mission to British Hitlerites and Buchmanites

The fact now revealed despite Churchill's reneging on his promise to make a full statement to Parliament, is that when Hess asked to be directed "to the estate of my friend the Duke of Hamilton," he was getting in touch as planned with one of the foremost leaders in Britain of the pro-Hitler, Tory, Buchmanite groups. May 10, when he landed, Hitler was already deep in plans for the invasion of the Ukraine, as he had predicted in *Mein Kampf* and openly threatened in pre-war speeches.

Amidst all the ballyhoo and propaganda following Hess's flight it now is known that there were a few straight facts: that Hess expected to get gasoline and return in 2 days; that he was deliberately sent to make peace with Britain for the purpose of switching the war.

Another fact, that the landing was made purposely on the land of the Duke of Hamilton, is significant. In Haxey's "Tory MP," which exposes the British ruling class as pro-Hitler, the Duke of Hamilton is hardly mentioned, but one of the most notorious fascists in Britain is listed as the Marquess of Clydesdale. As IN FACT revealed (May 26) the Anglo-German Fellowship was a holding company Hitler set up in Britain for Nazism, with 28 Lords and 24 members of Commons as leaders. They counted Lord Lothian a member and Lord Halifax (who just got a degree at Harvard) as an agent whom they sent to visit Hitler (London Times Dec 3 1937). The Astors, Vickers, Lever the soap king, Lazard

Bros the bankers and Thomas Cook were members. But Clydesdale was mentioned along with the two others as most influential in Nazi affairs in Britain. Since Clydesdale's father died after Haxey wrote his exposure, it is this same pro-Nazi who is now known as the new Duke of Hamilton.

This Hamilton has been known as a sympathizer with Buchmanism as well as Hitlerism. His sister-in-law, Lady Prunella Douglas-Hamilton, is a Buchmanite volunteer worker. The Duke is the fourth largest landlord in Britain.

### **Buchmanism, the Original Appeasement Movement**

Neville Chamberlain and almost all the appeasers of Munich, journalists of the Beaverbrook and Rothermere press who advocated fascism, and the Nazi movement in Britain were filled with Buchmanism. This was natural. The entire idea of this American "religion" which is also known as MRA and Oxford Group, is appeasement.

In America the Buchmanites plead for unity and for peace between capital and labor, between employer and employee; they are against strikes and list among their adherents many notorious labor-fighters such as Harry Chandler of the Los Angeles Times, Louis B Mayer of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Paul Shoup of the Southern Pacific, Elmer Howlett of the Merchants & Manufacturers Ass'n. Incredible as it may appear, Buchmanism also has a number of union labor leaders on its list.

A few weeks ago 50 members of Parliament passed the following resolution: "That this House, observing that the organization led by Dr Buchman has made no public utterance in condemnation of Hitler and other aggressors; believing that its activities have been harmful to the British cause in many countries . . . urges that the president of the board of trade revoke the license granted. . . ." A P Herbert, writer and Oxford's Member of Parliament, had previously protested the use of "Oxford" by Buchman, but 33 members of Commons, 25 lords, 12 baronets, 21 leading journalists were Buchmanites, and Buchman got his incorporation (Parliamentary Reports—Hansard—June 13 1939).

### **Buchman for Hitler, Mussolini, Franco**

The Buchmanites boasted in 1939 that the surrender of Czechoslovakia to Hitler was their work.

Buchman spoke glowingly of Mussolini and openly endorsed Hitler. "I thank heaven for a man like Adolf Hitler," he said (Time Sept 7 1936). He also declared, "Human problems . . . could be solved with a God-controlled democracy, or should I say theocracy, and through a God-controlled fascist dictatorship." He also said, "Spain has taught us what Godless communism will bring." Zion's Herald (Methodist) replied: "God-controlled fascism! The terms are mutually exclusive. As well talk of a God-controlled hell. When God controls, fascism is thereby ruled out."

Among Buchman's converts were several Nazi baronesses, Nazi leaders, American Wall Street men who (Dr Shipley, editor of The Churchman, reported) were the most vicious anti-Semites; Jewish rich men including Louis Mayer and other Hollywood employers; and strangely enough labor leaders.

Despite Buchman's open declaration for Hitlerism, fascism, appeasement and reaction, he has been able to mail out thousands of endorsements from William Green, President American Federation of Labor, David Dubinsky of the International Ladies Garment Workers, Daniel J Tobin president Brotherhood of Teamsters, James B Carey Nat'l Sec'y CIO, and Geo Harrison, vice-president AFL.

IN FACT wrote Dubinsky, Tobin and Carey saying they were probably unaware when they endorsed Buchmanism that Buchman had endorsed Hitler; also that Buchman's labor appeasement was intended to "soothe labor, disarm labor, stop strikes, make peace between the lion and lamb (capital and labor) with the lamb inside the lion. If you know anything at all about MRA you know it is anti-labor."

Both Dubinsky and Tobin have not replied. Carey, whose name appeared on Buchmanite literature two years ago, writes IN FACT, "You are more than mistaken should you say that I have endorsed the Moral Re-Armament movement of Dr Frank Buchman."

The latest broadside issued by Buchman is entitled "You Can Defend America." It pleads for "teamwork in industry," which every labor leader knows means not asking for better wages or working conditions. The Buchman broadside repeats the stale lie that "France failed in the factory before she failed at the front." The appeal is a typical National Ass'n of Manufacturers propaganda handout against labor. But with it went a letter from AFL President Green saying he hoped it would be "in the hands of every union man in the country . . . (and all citizens) to strengthen their spirit for endurance and sacrifice."

The Hess appeasement campaign in Britain is the most important Buchmanite movement to date. IN FACT has no information on the degree of its success, but many Washington observers, pointing out that Winston Churchill was the principal organizer of the numerous international invasions of Russia from 1918 to 1923, believe that Hitler would not have attacked Russia this week without assurances from important sections of the British upper class—Tories and Buchmanites—that they will try to switch the war at an appropriate moment to aid fascism.

articles. Duranty replied that the Times was suppressing some of his articles.

### **The Times Line**

SINCE the Times is America's most important paper it is interesting to note how it suppresses its own correspondents. When Herbert Matthews cabled from Madrid that Italian Fascist troops were fighting against democratic Spain, Editor James repeatedly called Matthews down for mentioning Italians in Spain although Matthews had seen and spoken to hundreds of Italian prisoners.

When Lawrence Fernsworth, Valencia correspondent, cabled criticism of the manner the Times was handling Spanish news, James replied, "Your resignation accepted" although Fernsworth had not resigned. On the other hand James's man with Franco, William Carney, cabled a story mentioning every antiaircraft gun emplacement in Madrid and giving other valuable military information to Franco. Carney was applauded by the Times.

The Times employs reactionary, anti-liberal, sometimes pro-Fascist correspondents. One of its leading writers for years has been the Italian journalist Arnaldo Cortesi in Rome who sent so many pro-fascist stories from Mexico and Argentina, where he was later transferred, that the Council for Pan American Democracy sent a letter of protest to James. It was neither printed nor answered.

However, the Times either bullies its correspondents into following the Times line, which is reactionary or native-fascist, or it bullies them out of the office.

### **Good Guess on Hess**

THE press can now look back on its military experts, foreign correspondents, editorial writers and compare their statements with the facts.

One of the few who were right is the Times's Anne O'Hare McCormick who wrote: "In some way Hess is a symptom and symbol of this clash. In some way his flight is associated with the present crisis. Even if it is completely unreal, another war of nerves, he is somehow involved in the plot to create the impression that Germany must fight with Russia or against her."

June 24 the British Press Ass'n, which reflects Foreign Office views, admitted that Hess "may have come here to speak of the intended attack on Russia." United Press said Hess offered a 25-year pact to Britain and joint world rule.

Newspapers which published excerpts from Mein Kampf containing threats against America, which stated that Hitler has predicted everything he intends to do, and nevertheless accepted the Russo-German pact at face value, now print following Mein Kampf extract (written by Hitler-Hess in 1925): "If one wanted land and soil in Europe, then by and large this could only have been done at Russia's expense, and then the new Reich would again have to start marching along the road of the knights of former time, to give, with the help of the German sword, the soil to the plow and the daily bread to the nation. For such a policy, however, there was only one single ally in Europe: England."

Hitler is now attempting to seize the Ukraine, the land which produces bread. The Hess flight was for the purpose of getting England as the ally. Mein Kampf again has proved a key to Hitler's unchanging policy.

## Brasol and Coudert

TO the extensive list of professional anti-Semites connected in various capacities with the Coudert Committee, investigating "subversive activities" in the NY public school system, IN FACT is this week able to add the name of Boris Brasol.

Boris Brasol is head of the United Russian National Organizations in America, a coalition of all anti-Semitic, pro-Nazi and pro-Japanese White Guard groups in the US, with headquarters at 5 Columbus Circle, NY. His chief contribution to American anti-Semitism was to bring the Protocols of Zion, a collection of palpably forged documents blaming all the world's troubles on an international Jewish conspiracy, to this country, where he arranged their publication in Henry Ford's anti-Semitic organ, the Dearborn Independent. According to Norman Hapgood (Inside Story of Henry Ford's Jew-Mania), Brasol was the "chief adviser" of Ralph Easley, head of the violently anti-labor National Civic Federation, who was active till his death in distributing anti-Semitic literature imported from Nazi Germany. Before the Russian Revolution in 1917 Brasol was one of the leaders of the Czar's "Black Hundreds," and he has never ceased working actively for the restoration of Czarism. In spite of his unsavory connections, he was employed by the US Secret Service in 1918.

IN FACT is now authoritatively informed that for some years Brasol has been retained by Coudert Brothers, prominent NY law firm which was once the Czar's US agent and which has been consistently associated with international reaction. A phone call by IN FACT to the Coudert office brought forth the information that Brasol was not at the moment in the office, but could be reached at BRyant 9-0769.

Those acquainted with the history of the Coudert firm were not surprised that it should work with one of the nation's leading anti-Semites. Frederic Rene Coudert Jr divides his time between the firm and his activities as a State Senator, which include his current witch-hunting in the schools.

## Coudert Sr.

DURING the first world war Frederic Rene Coudert Sr was counsel in the US for the British Embassy and a founder and member of the executive committee of the National Security League, a high-powered war propaganda outfit not unlike Thomas Lamont's present Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies.

The Coudert firm has as one of its partners Paul Fuller, for many years secretary and director of Coty Inc and its affiliate, Coty International Corp. The late Francois Coty, founder of the company, also founded the fascist newspaper L'Ami du Peuple and at one time sub-

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## Teachers Unions, Under Reactionary Attack, Expose Fascists, Anti-Semites in NY School Witch Hunt

THE Coudert Committee, established 16 months ago by the NY Legislature, now has the following accomplishments to its credit: between 30 and 40 teachers at NY City College have been suspended, employment has been given to several highly-paid lawyers, the press has been provided with large quantities of lurid copy, fascist and anti-Semitic activities in the schools have been stimulated, a basis has been laid for a sharp cut in state aid to education by terrorizing and disrupting the only effective defenders of adequate educational budgets: the Teachers Unions. Because the activities of the Coudert Committee are part of a national campaign against free education, which has been intensified with the war crisis, IN FACT feels that these facts, not generally known, are important:

1) The Coudert Committee was set up as a result of lobbying by associations of large taxpayers and the Christian Front.

2) Committee spokesmen have openly announced their real aims to be cutting educational budgets.

3) After a year devoted to slandering and persecuting trade unionists, the Committee reported to the legislature, in the face of much well-documented information on fascist and Nazi activities in the schools, that: "Thus far no substantial evidence has been unearthed of organized activity of this character."

In February 1940, after an intensive state-wide campaign by the Teachers Unions, a \$10,000,000 cut in the educational budget was eliminated. Almost immediately afterward the Coudert Committee was established. July 9 1940, the Albany Times-Union, under the head "Cut of 12-million Yearly State Aid Goal," reported, "Aiming at a reduction of state aid to schools by the next fiscal year, the (Coudert) legislative committee yesterday launched its investigation of the State's vast education system."

The work of the Coudert Committee was anticipated by several years by Father Coughlin's openly pro-fascist Social Justice. In November 1939 it published three articles attacking the Teachers Unions and the "Jewish Communists" who were members. The articles were accompanied with lists of leading unionists identified as "Jew," "Jewess," "Gentile," and "Undetermined."

Of the first 14 teachers suspended by the Board of Education for alleged Communist affiliations, 13 were Jewish, although the percentage of Jewish teachers on the college faculties is approximately 20%. Anti-Semitism has burgeoned in the school system in the wake of the Coudert Committee. Most of the suspended teachers have received anonymous letters and postcards couched in anti-Semitic language. The small son of one teacher was seized and branded. Anti-Semitic stickers and scrawled slogans have become increasingly prevalent on the walls of city schools. Certain Jew-baiting teachers have introduced open anti-Semitism into their classrooms, which has resulted in a great increase in racial friction among students, with fights constantly breaking out between white and Negro students and Gentile and Jewish students. "Our efforts were proven to be fruitful," Social Justice said recently.

During the hearings a questionnaire was circulated among Evening Session teachers of Mathematics in City College asking 1) Preference as to teaching schedules, 2) Number of dependents, 3) Religious affiliations. The supervisor of the Mathematics Dep't announced that the incident was the beginning of religious qualifications for appointment in city schools. For 15 years before 1937 no Jewish teacher was added to the Mathematics staff. The Romance Languages Department has dismissed Jews from temporary jobs and replaced them with non-Jews.

That attacks on minorities are not confined to Jews was evidenced when Dr Max Yergan, head of the National Negro Congress and the only Negro teacher at City College in 94 years, was abruptly dismissed a month ago.

## Fascists and Anti-Semites Protected by Coudert

The Teachers Unions have called the attention of the Coudert Committee to the American Education Association, headed by Dr Milo F McDonald, and the Teachers Alliance, headed by Francis S Moseley, both of whom have been accused by a member of the NY Board of Education "of spreading intolerance and anti-Semitism." Dr McDonald and Mr Moseley contribute regularly to the Tablet, Coughlinite weekly. The Signpost, published by the Education Ass'n, condones the organized brutality of the Christian Front, and in an editorial in February 1940 reported that the opposition of Jewish papers to the Christian Front was responsible for the Front's lack of forbearance toward Jews. The Coudert Committee has not investigated these organizations, which are both enthusiastic supporters of Coudert. The Educational Signpost recently reported, "We, who have been associated with the Signpost for the past few years, are having difficulty containing ourselves. Each night, as we read our evening newspaper, we fairly burst with pride."

Coudert has ignored other information of anti-Semitic activities offered him by Jewish and anti-fascist organizations. After his committee was established, the American Jewish Congress wrote to the Board of Education, "During recent months the American Jewish Congress and the Independent Order of Brith Abraham . . . have accumulated considerable information concerning the rise of un-American activities in the Public Schools." Brith Abraham, the Jewish Review, Equality, the NY Teacher, the Hour, the City Reporter, have published

great quantities of well-documented information about anti-Semitism without attracting Coudert's attention. In January the NY Co-ordinating Committee for Democratic Action supplied Coudert with a detailed memorandum called Un-American School Activities. Four months later it was obliged to report, "The Coudert Committee seems to have shown no interest in this lead." (City Reporter, April 15 1941.)

One of the most notable cases of anti-democratic activity in the schools is that of Timothy Murphy, formerly dean of Gompers Vocational High School. Sworn statements from thirteen Gompers teachers accused Murphy of anti-Italian, anti-Negro and anti-Semitic prejudice, extreme brutality to students, bigotry and anti-union bias, use of students as spies on teachers, promotion of the Christian Front among students and teachers. Two years after the complaints were brought, Murphy was transferred to another school, where he was given an evening job teaching in the government defense program at extra pay. Meanwhile, active unionists of high academic standing were being suspended or unsubstantiated charges by interested witnesses.

### \$25,000 Counsel, Ambitious for Higher Things

A whopping fee of \$25,000 goes to Chief Counsel Paul Windels, who has conducted the Committee's much-criticized Star Chamber hearings, at which teachers and students, denied the right of counsel, are questioned about their political and religious beliefs with all the subtlety of the Gestapo. Windels was once corporation counsel for Mayor LaGuardia, and the Board of Education consists of LaGuardia appointees. Bella Dodd writes in the New York Teacher: "Again and again, evidence of collusion by at least one member of the Board of Higher Education with Mr Windels has come to our attention. Board members and Paul Windels have together been guilty of attempts to intimidate and coerce individuals into giving testimony which they will use to convict teachers." Windels is supported in his ambitions to become borough president of Brooklyn by the Brooklyn Eagle. His unfavorable reputation with NY labor groups springs from his position as adviser to the Brooklyn Eagle management when the paper was struck by the Newspaper Guild.

Bella Dodd says, "The people of the city ought to know the truth about how Paul Windels is said to have squeezed the City of NY out of one million and a quarter dollars in payment of advertising contracts for the independent subway. City contracts were obtained by Paul Windels through some sort of 'arrangement' which shut out opposition bidders."

Senator Coudert told a delegation from the United Parents Association (Jan 3 1941): "The legislators at Albany are fed up with the Union." His conduct of the hearings has shown deep-seated anti-labor bias: the few unionists who have been allowed to defend themselves have been treated with unexampled severity; the unsupported allegations of the Committee's witnesses have been included in the Committee's report to the legislature as facts; the Committee has carried on a lengthy legal battle to get access to the unions' membership lists.

On the day the membership lists were handed over, Hearst photographers were present in Coudert's office, although no public announcement had been made: the obvious implication being that Coudert wanted the list in order to have it photographed and published in the Journal American. The Hearst papers have worked closely with the committee, regarding its activities as vindication of Hearst's incessant campaigns against public education. "Certainly nobody who has read the New York Journal American can have been surprised by the disclosures made before the Coudert Committee," says the Journal American. For a period of several weeks, the Coudert Committee got bigger play than the European war in the Hearst papers and the Brooklyn Eagle.

Meanwhile the unions' radio program, The Truth About the Schools, was banned from NY radio stations. The officials of one station which carried it were subpoenaed by the Coudert Committee and required to give up a list of all the actors and technicians. After that other stations refused to accept it.

Last week, as one of the suspended teachers was put on trial for perjury, the Times reported that a group of demonstrators greeted Senator Coudert with the singing of the Internationale. What the demonstrators were singing, other newspapers reported, was the Star Spangled Banner.

### IN FACT'S POLICY

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sidized the Croix de Feu, French imitator of the Nazis.

Fuller, a cousin of Coudert, was also attorney for the outspokenly anti-Semitic Prince Louis II of Monaco (who is also first cousin once removed of the present Duke of Hamilton). He was once the legal adviser to the French government in the US, and his European connections enabled the firm to acquire many clients in France, Italy and Spain. For many years Coudert Brothers maintained an office in Paris at 52 Avenue des Champs-Elysees but this was closed recently in favor of a Washington office.

### Other Activities

ANOTHER member of the firm, who was partly responsible for the favorable publicity given the Coudert Committee by the press, is Thomas K Finletter, who was treasurer of the NY Post till two months ago, when he was appointed assistant economic adviser to the State Dep't. Coudert Brothers, which has consistently engaged in international litigation, has cultivated the good will of the State Dep't, with which it is now registered as a foreign agent.

The Couderts have extensive real estate holdings: Frederic Jr is vice president and director of the Garden City Co, a Long Island real estate concern of which Frederic Sr is trustee. The Coudert Committee, it has been noted, was established after coordinated lobbying by fascist groups and real estate groups, and the most outspoken opponents of state aid to education have always been real estate interests. Frederic Sr is also president and director of the Chapultepec Land Improvement Co, and he overlooks no opportunity to attack land reform in Mexico.

All business at the NY office of the firm is transacted in French. Coudert makes no secret of his pro-fascist sympathies. May 25, just before the US State Department ceased for the time being trying to appease the bitter old fascist Petain, Coudert wrote a letter to the NY Herald Tribune urging "understanding" of the fascist Vichy regime. One of the subheads read, "Petain's Struggle to Rescue France."

Before the Republican Business Women June 3 Coudert made this appeal to hysteria and vigilanteism: "Now if your dog had rabies you wouldn't clap him into jail after he had bitten a number of persons—you'd put a bullet into his head, if you had that kind of iron in your soul. It is going to require brutal treatment to handle these teachers."

It was this man, who as State Senator had voted for every proposal to cut State aid to education, who was selected to investigate "the extent to which, if any, subversive activities may have been permitted to be carried on in the schools and colleges."

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